



NEWS RELEASE

Today, June 13, is Tax Freedom Day; all four Atlantic provinces hold greater tax burden than the national average

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For Immediate Release

HALIFAX— Today—Thursday, June 13—Canadians celebrate Tax Freedom Day, the day in the year when they start working for themselves, not government, finds a new study published by the Fraser Institute, an independent, non-partisan Canadian public policy think-tank.

“If Canadians paid all their taxes up front, they would work the first 164 days of this year before bringing any money home for themselves and their families,” said Jake Fuss, Director of Fiscal Studies at the Fraser Institute.

Tax Freedom Day measures the total annual tax burden imposed on Canadian families by federal, provincial, and municipal governments. This year, it comes four days later than in 2019, the last year before the pandemic.

Tax Freedom Day for each province varies according to the extent of the provincially and locally levied tax burden.

Troublingly, all four of the Atlantic Provinces’ Tax Freedom Days (June 30 in Newfoundland & Labrador, June 22 in Nova Scotia, and June 15 in New Brunswick and PEI) fall at least two days later than the national date of June 13—which means the burden on taxpayers in each province is greater as well.

In 2024, the average Canadian family (with two or more people) will pay \$65,766 in total taxes. That’s 44.6 per cent of its annual income (\$147,570) going to income taxes, payroll taxes (including the Canada Pension Plan), health taxes, sales taxes (like the GST), property taxes, fuel taxes, carbon taxes, “sin” taxes and more.

Represented as days on the calendar, the total tax burden compromises more than five months of income—from January 1 to June 13. On June 13th—Tax Freedom Day—Canadians finally start working for themselves.

But Canadians should also be worried about the nearly \$70 billion in deficits the federal and provincial governments are forecasting this year, because they will have substantial tax implications in future years.

“Tax Freedom Day helps put the total tax burden in perspective, and helps Canadians understand just how much of their money they pay in taxes every year,” Fuss said.

“Canadians need to decide for themselves whether they are getting their money’s worth when it comes to how governments are spending their tax dollars.”

2024 Provincial Tax Freedom Days

Manitoba	May 26
Saskatchewan	June 2
British Columbia	June 4
Alberta	June 8

Ontario	June 10
New Brunswick	June 15
Prince Edward Island	June 10
Nova Scotia	June 22
Quebec	June 27
Newfoundland & Labrador	June 30
CANADA	June 13

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